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At the Piano ^{Miller}

FUN AND PHRASING

By

DOROTHY GAYNOR BLAKE



OLIVER

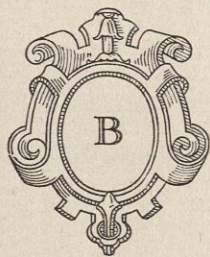
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FUN
AND PHRASING
AT THE PIANO

BY
DOROTHY GAYNOR BLAKE

AUTHOR OF
A First How-Do-You-Do to the Piano



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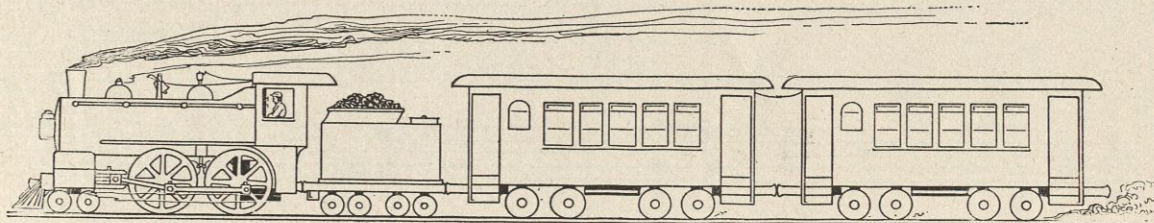
PREFACE

THESE pieces have been written especially to help in the teaching of phrasing. They are not in rapid tempo; there are few big stretches; and they are most effective when played with little or no pedal. There must be much contrast of tone, and the melodies are so written that they will naturally predominate. But of foremost importance is the phrasing. The hand must remain on the keyboard, the fingers linking the tones into a perfect legato wherever the phrases are marked; and at the end of each phrase the hand must be raised clear of the keys so as to make a complete break. This should be the chief goal; and the simplicity of the other technical demands upon the player should make him able, at an early age and with small hands, to master that down-up motion which is the breathing of piano music. The verses are intended to create atmosphere, stir the imagination, provide a reason for the rhythms and phrasing, and guide the general interpretation.

DOROTHY GAYNOR BLAKE

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THE TRAIN

All aboard! All aboard! ALL ABOARD — —!!

With a pull and a tug and a chug, chug-a-chug

The engine starts its journey;

And it rattles along till the wheels sing a song,

Sing a song — (chug-a-chug) all along — (chug-a-chug)

The way — chug-a-chug, chug-a-chug, chug-a-chug.

As it sings along the track (chug-a-chug)

You can hear it echo back (chug-a-chug)

Chug-a-chug (^{echo}chug-a-chug), chug-a-chug (^{echo}chug-a-chug),

Chug-a-chug, you hear it say.

So it pulls and it tugs and it chug, chug-a-chugs

Till it nears its destination,

Then it pants and it groans, and it puffs and it moans

Till it chugs right up and stops — at the

Sta--tion.

DOROTHY GAYNOR BLAKE

1. THE TRAIN

DOROTHY GAYNOR BLAKE

the train starts
slowly,

Introduction
With spirit

PIANO

f

mf

laboriously

gradual accelerando

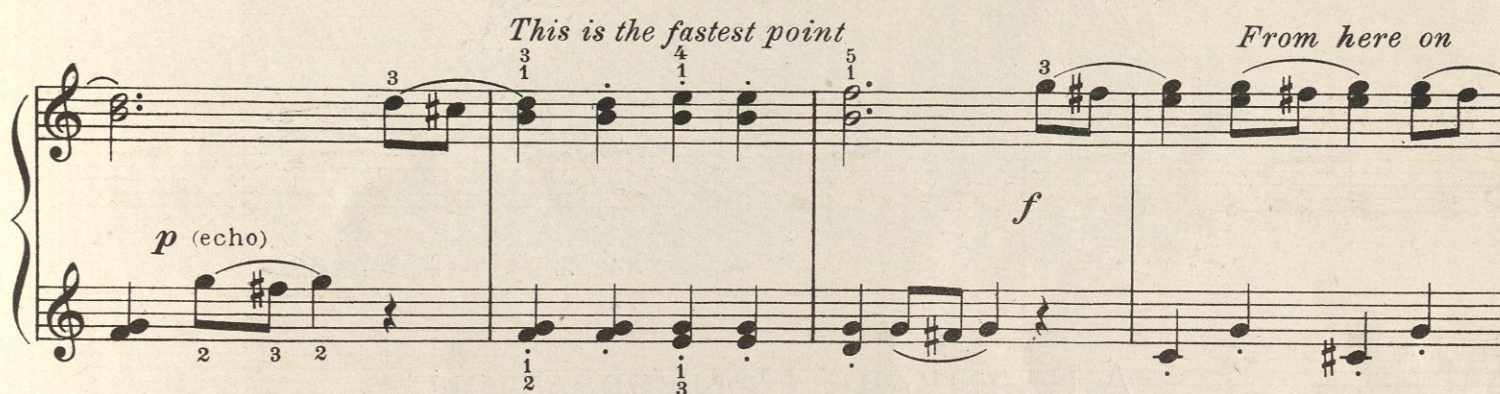
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First system of musical notation. The right hand features a series of chords and triplets, with fingerings 3 1, 5 3, 4 2, 3 1, 3 2, 3 1, and 3. The left hand plays a rhythmic accompaniment with fingerings 1 2 1, 2 1, 1 2 1, 1 2 1, and 2 3 2. Dynamics include *f* and *p* (echo).



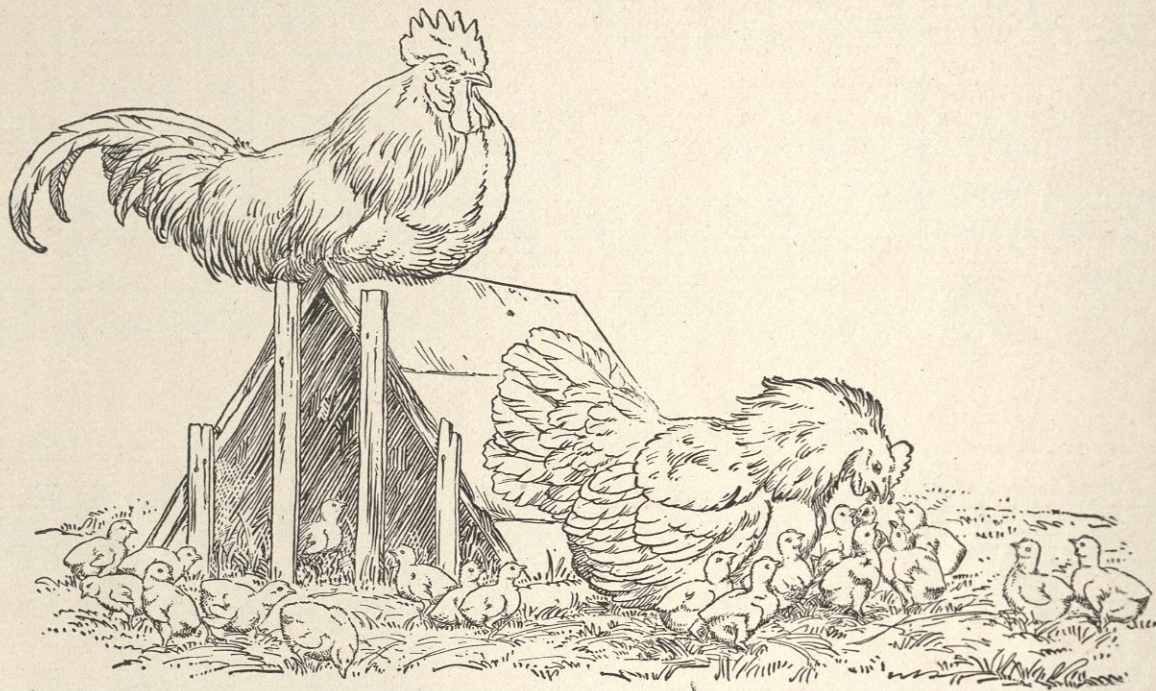
Second system of musical notation. The right hand has chords and triplets with fingerings 3 1, 4 1, 5 1, 3, and 3. The left hand continues the accompaniment with fingerings 2 3 2, 1 2, 1 3, and 1 2. Dynamics include *p* (echo) and *f*. Text annotations above the right hand include "This is the fastest point" and "From here on".



Third system of musical notation. The right hand features a rapid sixteenth-note passage with accents and triplets, with fingerings 3 and 3. The left hand has a descending line with fingerings 1 5 and 2 4. Dynamics include *decrecendo*. Text annotations above the right hand include "slow down" and "clumsily again".



Fourth system of musical notation. The right hand has chords and triplets with fingerings 2 1, 3 1, and 3 1. The left hand has a descending line with fingerings 1 5, 2 4, 2 1, 1 2, 2 2, and 1 5. Dynamics include *mp* and *p*. Text annotations above the right hand include "The train stops".



A BARNYARD CONVERSATION

"Tuk, Tuk, Tuk, Tuk, Tuk, a-Tuk-a!"

Mistress Hen said, one day,

"I have so many worries

I must hurry away.

Tuk, Tuk, Tuk, Tuk, Tuk, a-Tuk-a!

Tuk, Tuk, Tuk, Tuk, a-Tuk-a!

Tuk, Tuk, Tuk, Tuk, a-Tuk-a!

For I scratch and

Feed all my twenty children

And I've no time for play."

"Cock-a-doodle-doo!

Cock-a-doodle-doo!

I announce each new morning

Cock-a-doodle-doo!

Cock-a-doodle-doo!

Then my day's work is done!"

"Tuk, Tuk, Tuk, Tuk, Tuk, a-Tuk-a!"

Then replied Mistress Hen,

"I'm tired of your good morning

Crowed again and again!

You strut and shake your feathers

While through rainy weather

I must keep together

All this hungry

Brood. Tuk, Tuk, Tuk, Tuk, a-Tuk-a!"

Said the poor mother hen.

(And if you listen you'll hear that the
lady has the last word in the argument.)

DOROTHY GAYNOR BLAKE

2. A BARNYARD CONVERSATION

Slowly - Think of the verse. Then make
your audience hear it all in the music.

DOROTHY GAYNOR BLAKE

PIANO

*Brighter and faster
Proudly*

First system of musical notation. Treble and bass staves. Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). Dynamics: *f* (forte) and *mf* (mezzo-forte). Fingerings: 1 3, 2 5, 1 5, 2, 1, 2, 3 5.

return to first tempo

Second system of musical notation. Treble and bass staves. Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). Dynamics: *mf* (mezzo-forte), *mp* (mezzo-piano), *mf* (mezzo-forte). Time signature: 4/2.

Third system of musical notation. Treble and bass staves. Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). Dynamics: *p* (piano).

Fourth system of musical notation. Treble and bass staves. Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). Dynamics: *f* (forte). Fingerings: 2 1, 3.

(the hen) and a peaceful conclusion (in the major)

Fifth system of musical notation. Treble and bass staves. Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). Dynamics: *f* (forte), *mf* (mezzo-forte), *mp* (mezzo-piano). Fingerings: 5 3 1, 2, 4 3 2 1, 2 5, 1 3, 5 1.

(the rooster)



ROBIN, ROBIN REDBREAST

Robin, Robin Redbreast,
Is it you I hear?
Why, the winter's scarcely over
Robin, Robin dear!
Robin, Robin Redbreast,
You *must* have come too soon.
How could you mistake dear
March for lovely June?

Child, 'twas no mistake
I come to sing for you
Jonquils I must wake and
Early violets blue.
They, like you, must wait
Until they hear me sing
Before they're sure its really, really
Time—for—Spring.

DOROTHY GAYNOR BLAKE

3. ROBIN, ROBIN RED-BREAST

DOROTHY GAYNOR BLAKE

To be played slowly - with a delicate touch and careful separation of the phrases so that it will sound like a real "chirrup"

PIANO *p*

mp



First system of musical notation. Treble clef, key signature of one flat (B-flat). The right hand plays a melody starting with a half note G4, followed by eighth notes A4, B-flat4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4. The left hand plays a bass line with a half note C3, followed by a half note G2, and then a half note F2. A dynamic marking *mf* is present in the right hand.



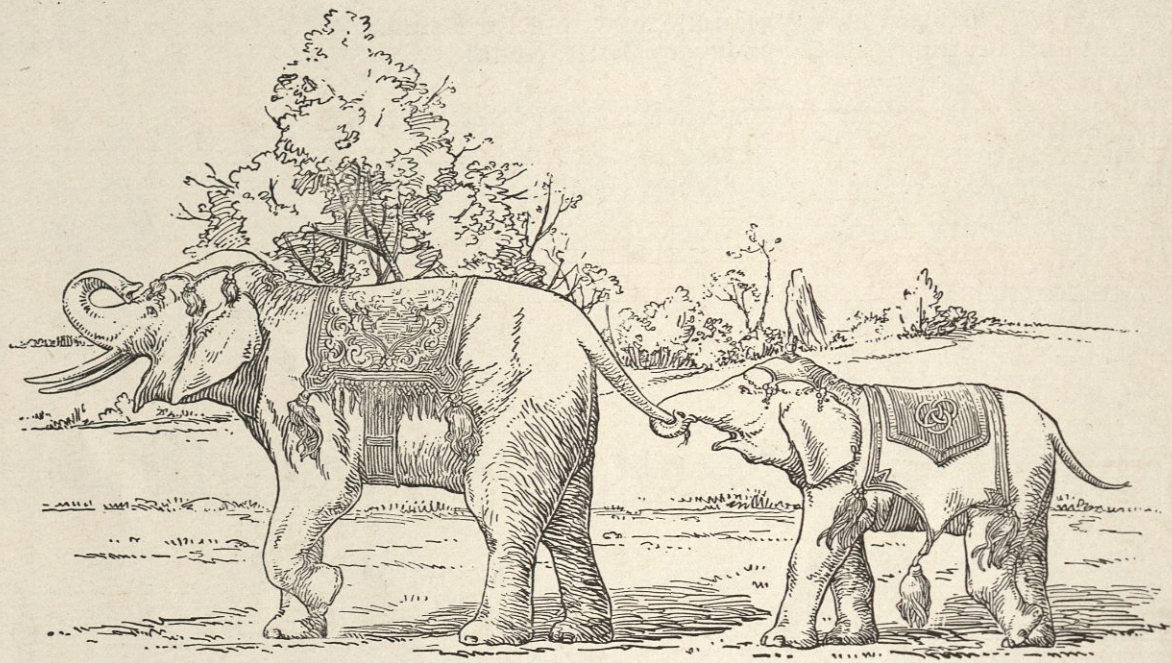
Second system of musical notation. Treble clef, key signature of one flat. The right hand plays a melody with eighth notes and quarter notes. The left hand plays a bass line with a half note C3, followed by a half note G2, and then a half note F2. A dynamic marking *poco ritard.* is present in the right hand, and *mp a tempo* is present in the left hand.



Third system of musical notation. Treble clef, key signature of one flat. The right hand plays a melody with eighth notes and quarter notes. The left hand plays a bass line with a half note C3, followed by a half note G2, and then a half note F2. A dynamic marking *poco accelerando* is present in the right hand, and *mf* is present in the left hand. A dynamic marking *mp a tempo* is present in the right hand.



Fourth system of musical notation. Treble clef, key signature of one flat. The right hand plays a melody with eighth notes and quarter notes. The left hand plays a bass line with a half note C3, followed by a half note G2, and then a half note F2. A dynamic marking *p* is present in the right hand, and *pp* is present in the left hand. A dynamic marking *mp* is present in the right hand. The system ends with a double bar line and a repeat sign.



THE ELEPHANT

The elephant's ears are big and rough,
And her trunk is long.
The elephant's skin is thick and tough,
Her tusks are shiny and strong.
She came from the jungles of India,
Far across the sea,
To show how funny the animals
Over there can be.
The elephant's baby has to drink
From a great big pail,
And whenever the two go out to walk
He holds onto his mother's tail.

DOROTHY GAYNOR BLAKE

4. THE ELEPHANT

DOROTHY GAYNOR BLAKE

To be played slowly, clumsily, with expression
and rhythmic stress and very little pedal

PIANO

The musical score for "The Elephant" is written for piano in 6/8 time. It consists of five systems of music. The first system begins with a piano (piano) dynamic and a mezzo-forte (mf) instruction. The second system includes a crescendo (cresc.) instruction and a pedal (Ped.) marking. The third system features a mezzo-piano (mp) dynamic. The fourth system includes a piano (p) dynamic. The fifth system includes a piano-piano (pp) dynamic and a piano (p) dynamic. The score also includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, slurs, and fingerings. Performance instructions include "To be played slowly, clumsily, with expression and rhythmic stress and very little pedal", "mf", "cresc.", "rit.", "a tempo", "mp", "p", "pp", "Ped.", and "L.H. over right.".



TIGER! TIGER!

Grrrr~~~~~!

A Tiger prowling,

Grrrr~~~~~!

In the dead of night!

Hark to his stealthy footsteps gliding

Grrrr~~~~~!

Not a birdling peeps;

Hunts through the forest, always hiding

Grrrr~~~~~!

While the great world sleeps.

Grrrr~~~~~!

A Tiger growling,

Grrrr~~~~~!

DOROTHY GAYNOR BLAKE

5. TIGER! TIGER!

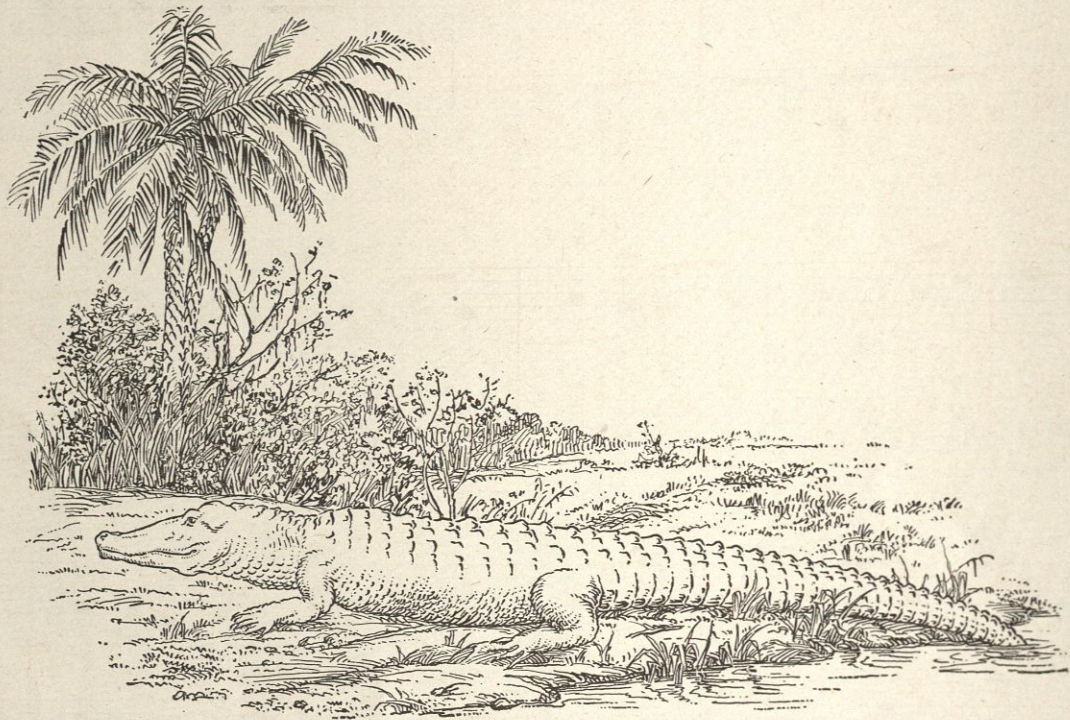
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DOROTHY GAYNOR BLAKE

Mysteriously and with much contrast

PIANO

The musical score is written for piano and consists of six systems. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The piece is marked 'Mysteriously and with much contrast'. The dynamics range from *f* (forte) to *p* (piano), with *mp* (mezzo-piano) and *mf* (mezzo-forte) also appearing. The score includes various articulations such as accents, slurs, and fingerings. The piece concludes with a final chord and a fermata. The notation includes both treble and bass staves, with some parts marked '8va bassa' (8va bassa) indicating an octave lower.



THE ALLIGATOR

Through jungles deep a river flows,
(Quite close to the equator),
And in it lives an animal
They call an Alligator.

He suns himself, and in the mud
He lies the whole day through,
And swallows up the fish that pass,
For—he's nothing else to do.

His jaws are big, his teeth are sharp,
To see them makes one shiver!
For he eats the babies—
Who fall into the river!

DOROTHY GAYNOR BLAKE

6. THE ALLIGATOR

19

DOROTHY GAYNOR BLAKE

Slowly, darkly mysterious, except in the one happy line about his freedom from care

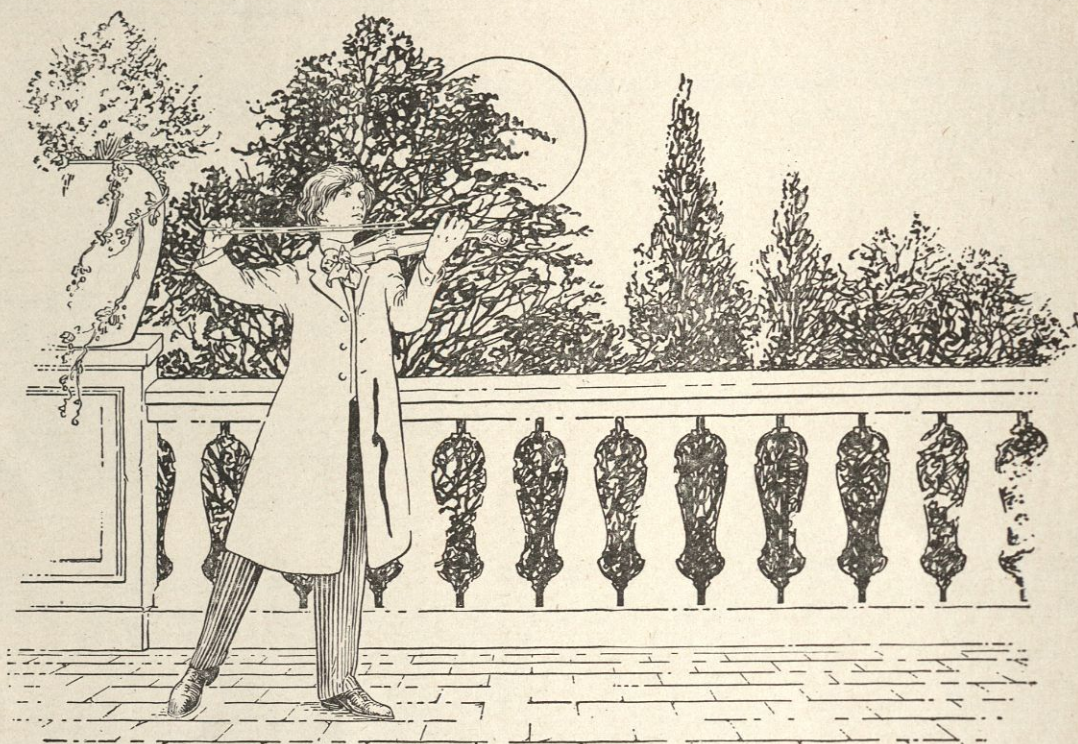
PIANO

The sluggish jungle river

Lev.

8va bassa

74900-13



PLAYING A VIOLIN

A melody that's sweet and thin
Comes floating out to me.
I'm sure it's from a violin,
Although I cannot see.
And when the tone grows full, I know
He's pressing down upon the bow.
I'll close my eyes and make believe
I'm playing a violin.

DOROTHY GAYNOR BLAKE

7. PLAYING A VIOLIN

21

Very slow - right hand bearing down heavily - big tone
perfect legato - left hand *very soft* throughout

DOROTHY GAYNOR BLAKE

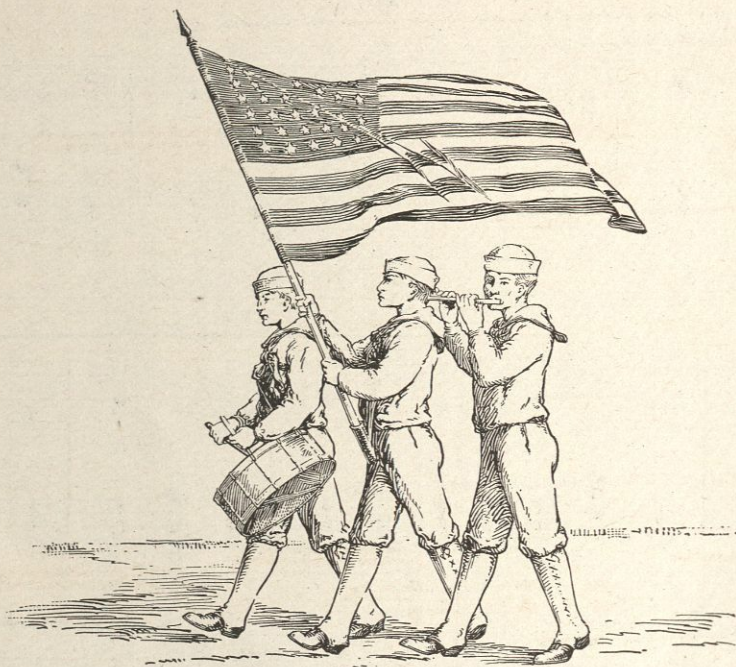
PIANO *mf*

ritard.

[left hand over]

p

ritard.



THE PARADE

Toodle-oodle,
Oot-toot-toot-toot-toot!
Hear the silver flute play toodle-oodle-oodle-oodle,
Oot-toot-toot-toot-toot!
How I love to see the colors fly!
A man beats on a big bass drum;
He holds his head up high.
Toodle-oodle-oot sing horns and flute,
Every player blows as he marches by.

Here come the gay marines just
Back home from off the sea.
This toodle-oodle-oot their welcome sings,
And they are just as happy as can be!
Oh, I'll be mighty proud when
I learn to drill and shoot,
And then when I come back from foreign lands
They'll greet me with a
Toodle-oodle-oodle-oodle-oot!

Toodle-oodle,
Oot-toot-toot-toot-toot!
Hear the silver flute play toodle-oodle-oodle-oodle,
Oot-toot-toot-toot-toot!
I could hear them play from morn till night!
They march straight and they're trig and slim
And their eyes look keen and bright.
Toodle-oodle-oot—we'll hear that flute
Even when they've marched clear out of sight!

DOROTHY GAYNOR BLAKE

8. THE PARADE

DOROTHY GAYNOR BLAKE

Gaily—fast but
in strict time.

PIANO

mf *mp* *mf* *mp* *f*

(The man with the big bass drum)

First system of musical notation. The right hand (treble clef) features a melodic line with fingerings 2, 1, 4, 1, 5, 3, 2, 1, 1. The left hand (bass clef) provides harmonic support with fingerings 4, 1, 3, 5, 1, 3, 1, 2, 5, 1, 5.

Second system of musical notation. The right hand (treble clef) has fingerings 4, 3, 1, 2, 1, 5, 2, 1, 4, 1. The left hand (bass clef) has fingerings 1, 5, 4, 2, 1, 2, 1, 3. A *mf* dynamic marking is present in the left hand.

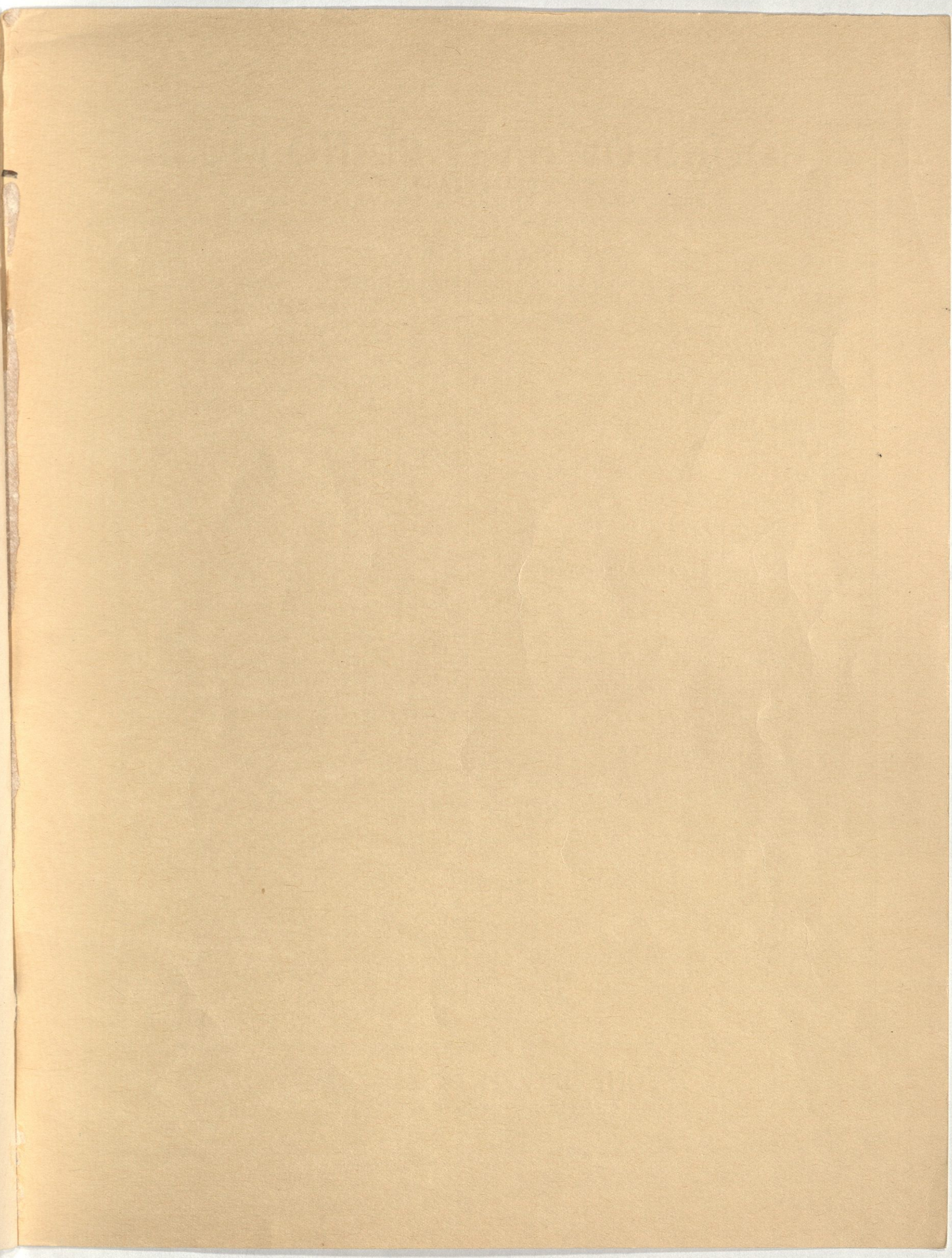
Bring out the left hand melody

Third system of musical notation. The right hand (treble clef) has fingerings 2, 2, 5, 5, 5, 5, 1. The left hand (bass clef) has fingerings 4, 1, 3, 1. A *bz* marking is present in the left hand.

Fourth system of musical notation. The right hand (treble clef) has fingerings 1, 5, 4, 1, 2, 4. The left hand (bass clef) has fingerings 1, 5, 4, 1, 2, 4.

Fifth system of musical notation. The right hand (treble clef) has fingerings 5, 1, 3, 4, 4. The left hand (bass clef) has fingerings 1, 3, 4, 4.





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